

LOUDOUN COUNTY EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL, INC.

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, May 17, 2004

The May meeting of the ALS Committee was held on May 17, 2004, and was called to order by the Chairman at 1940hours with the following members in attendance:

Co. 3	A. Love	Co. 14	J. Merritt
Co. 4	Excused	Co. 15	F. Gansel
Co. 6	J. Downs	Co. 17	R. Breton
Co. 8	Excused	LCFR	Jay Brown, J. Salazar
Co. 9	Excused	Chair	L. Kelly
Co. 10	Excused	LHC	W. Harvel, RN
Co. 12	M. Elkon	OMD/AOMD	J. Morgan, MD
Co. 13	P. Russell		

In Attendance: B/C Linda Hale and Lt. Jamie Cooper, LCFR

Public Comments

None

Minutes

A motion was made by R. Breton and seconded by J. Downs.

Motion: Approve March 2004 minutes.

Vote: Approved

The minutes of the April 2004 meeting were approved.

Medical Director's Report

Dr, Morgan stated that the ER Physicians Group of Loudoun Hospital Center will sponsoring an EMS Week recognition session tomorrow evening at Loudoun Hospital Center – Lansdowne Campus. A light supper and refreshments will be served along with EMS related presentations. The session will begin at 6:30 PM and will be held in Conference Rooms A & B. The conference rooms can be accessed through the entrance of the hospital adjacent to the cafeteria near the Birthing Inn. Flyers were distributed to each of Loudoun's EMS Agencies.

ALS Committee Minutes
May 17, 2004

Loudoun Hospital Center Report

1. Jack Merritt voiced his disappointment that the invitation list for the dedication of the Loudoun Hospital Center ER dedication to Dr. Sabella was extremely limited. He said that he wanted to make sure that Dr. Sabella was aware that the lack of participation on the part of EMS providers was related to the lack of invitations and not the lack of interest.

Kelly explained the chain of events that occurred that resulted in a very limited invitation list being sent out by the hospital Board of Directors. He also pointed out that the ER personnel suffered the same fate, as did the EMS providers with regard to the lack of notification and invitations.

Kelly stated that at the Awards Banquet, Dr. Sabella was inducted into the Loudoun County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Hall of Fame. He stated that David Goldberg has contacted him and wished to have the hospital recognize the services of Loudoun's EMS Providers at the June 2004, EMS Council Meeting by providing food and refreshments. Kelly stated that this might provide a good opportunity for the EMS providers to recognize the two honors that have been bestowed on Dr. Sabella at that time.

2. The target date for having EMS units, BLS and ALS, to call into the hospital with their reports on all patients has not been finalized. Once the start date has been finalized, a memo will be sent out to all agencies allowing enough time for them to notify their providers and also for the hospital to make the staff aware of the change. Attempts will be made to finalize the date at the next meeting we have with the ER and hospital personnel.

3. A discussion occurred again concerning EMS Agency members taking excessive supplies from the hospital. Once again, the delegates were asked to remind their members that the replacement process is to replace those supplies that were used on the patient on a one-for-one basis. Kelly reminded the delegates once again that the hospital is not responsible for restocking ambulances, providing training materials of the stations or supplies for personnel first aid kits. A form has been developed by Wendy Harvel that outlines the list of items that will be considered for replacement when used on patients delivered to the hospital. The form is currently in the hands of Lida for approval. Kelly also pointed out that Loudoun Hospital Center is one of the few hospitals that provide replacement supplies. In most of the jurisdictions, the cost for the replacement of supplies and drugs is borne by the EMS agency or the jurisdiction. Kelly pointed out that the hospital has been very gracious over the years in allowing this process to occur and we should not abuse it.

4. Please remind your members that expired drugs can only be replaced at the Lansdowne Campus, not at the Cornwall Street facility. Some pressure is being placed at the Cornwall Street facility staff to make exceptions. Please do not put them in an awkward position.

5. Allie Love stated that it seems that our large quantity drugs such as Lidocaine all seem to expire at the same time. She said that she is hopeful that the pharmacy keeps track of these items so that there are sufficient supplies available for the replacement process.

6. Kelly read an e-mail from Nick Croce who was unable to be at the meeting this evening, in which he complimented Dr. Morgan and many of the other ER physicians for their patience and also their willingness to take the time to interact with the EMS providers upon their arrival at the ER with a patient and to answer questions about the patient's condition or the care rendered. He stated in his e-mail, "It is this type of interaction that makes volunteering a rewarding experience for me." He further stated, "I am very encouraged at the direction the physician staff seems to be taking. I hope that my observations are indicative of what others are seeing."

7. In his e-mail, Nick Croce also raised concerns about the expiration date on the FAST-1 Device. Allie Love stated that she checked with the manufacturer and that the expiration date is for the swabs that are in the package and not the device itself.

Working Groups

ALS Skills Maintenance

A discussion was held on the proposal submitted by Fred Muller at the April 2004, ALS Committee meeting in regard to ALS skills maintenance. After a discussion on the matter, it was the consensus of the ALS Committee that the current system is adequate.

Protocols

Each ALS Provider was asked to sign the receipt sheet acknowledging that they received the documents. It was also asked that they include their OEMS certification number and certification expiration date on the form. The ALS Committee members will be responsible for getting this sheet back to Capt. Salazar at EMS Training. We are lacking many sheets with the signatures. Jose asked that these sheets with the signatures and information be returned as soon as possible.

Preceptor Forms

Randy Breton stated that the sub-committee has met and that it was the feeling of the group that the proposed preceptor form is too long. The group will meet again to discuss how to shorten the form while still capturing important information. It was suggested that perhaps all that is needed with the current form is an explanation book that would explain what information is required in the form completion. Randy said he would take back that suggestion to the sub-committee.

Courses

Captain Jose Salazar and Lt. Jamie Cooper reported:

- EMT/E Refresher in progress with 4 students
 - The timeframe for changing from ST to E is coming up soon.
- ALS Challenge Testing (2 applications to date)
 - Prep Class - June 9, 2004
 - Written Exam – June 10, 2004
 - Practical Exam – June 13, 2004
- First Responder Course being conducted at Training Center with Barbara Murphy serving as the Course Coordinator.
- EMT/B Rapid Refresher Class is scheduled for two weekends. To date only 4 applications for the class have been received.
- AED/ETC Instructor – Pretest May 20, 2004 - Course May 24, 2004

A letter was read from Captain Jose Salazar requesting an exemption for Jason Cage, EMT/P for the waiver of prerequisites for the AED/ETC Instructor program based on his previous experience.

A motion was made by R. Breton and seconded by J. Downs.

Motion: Exempt Jason Cage, EMT/P from the prerequisites for the AED/ETC Instructor class.

Vote: Approved

The exemption for Jason Cage was approved.

A motion was made by A. Love and seconded by R. Breton.

Motion: Approve the following for entry into the AED/ETC Instructor Class following the successful completion of the pre-test:

B. Murphy – Co. 6
J. Tsaknis – Co. 6
W. Newcomb – Co. 6
F. Rath – Co. 13
G. Corpus – Co. 6
S. MacElwaine – Co. 13
P. Russell – Co. 13
S. Richardson – LCFR
J. Cage – LCFR

Vote: Approved

The above named individuals were approved for the class.

A motion was made by R. Breton and seconded by J. Downs.

Motion: Exempt Jason Cage, EMT/P from the prerequisites for the AED/ETC Instructor class.

Vote: Approved

The exemption for Jason Cage was approved.

A motion was made by A. Love and seconded by J. Downs.

Motion: Approve the following for ALS Challenge Testing:

D. Herman – LCFR – EMT/E Level
J. Cage – LCFR – EMT/CT-I-P Level

Vote: Approved

The motion to approve D. Herman and J. Cage for Challenge Testing was approved with the interviews to be conducted by J. Brown and Leo Kelly.

An Executive Committee consisting of Drs. Sabella and Morgan, Leo Kelly and Jay Brown will approve any additional applications received prior to the testing, on behalf of the ALS Committee.

Jamie Cooper stated that he is looking for evaluators for the June 13, 2004, ALS Testing for the EMT/E Refresher Class and ALS Challenge students. The testing is scheduled to begin at 0900 hours.

ALS Technician Status

Fred Gansel provided a report on the status of current ALS Preceptees.

A motion was made by F. Gansel and seconded by J. Downs.

Motion: To release the following individuals to practice at the levels indicated:

Deborah Smith - Co. 15 – ST/E
Andy Buttner – Co. 15 – ST/E
Mike Nichols – LCFR – CT/I/P
Dan Rinehart – LCFR – CT/I/P

Vote: Approved

The above named individuals were approved for release at the indicated levels.

It was also announced that the ALS Keys of the following individuals have been turned in:

William Winters – Co. 13 – Left the area
Chris Gay – LCFR – Terminated employment

Note: the Medical Director approved all actions and recommendations above.

Old Business

There continues to be problems with the LifPak batteries. Jay will set up another meeting with George Buchanan. If we are not successful in correcting the problems, it may be necessary to contact the FDA.

Karen will be asked to document the new failures by e-mail to all parties including Medtronic-Physio Control.

Fast Lane has provided a quote on the installation of the temperature regulation device for EMS units in the County. The cost will be a little under \$80,000. Jay will now move on getting the promised \$35,000.00 released from the County and we will need to review those units that require modifications and what if any are the anticipated replacement dates for those units that will require structural modification. \$35,000.00 is currently in the EMS Council for the conversion. We will need to explore areas to obtain the additional funds.

New Business

A letter for IV stick exemptions was received from Wagner Grier, Chief 13. A lengthy discussion occurred on the names presented:

A motion was made by R. Breton and seconded by A. Love.

Morton: Exempt the IV stick requirements for Patricia Russell, Co. 13.

Vote: Approved

The motion to exempt the IV Stick requirements of Patricia Russell, Co. 13 was approved.

They're being not further business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2115 hours.

Motion: Motion to adjourn the meeting

Vote: Approved

The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 2115 hours.

The next ALS Committee meeting will be Monday, June 21, 2004 at 1930 hours at the Training Center.

5/17/04 LCK